

ments upon the cadaver led to the conclusion that fractures through the floor of the acetabulum are more apt to occur than simple fractures of the rim, they require a less degree of violence to produce them, and their greater mortality is attributable to co-existing visceral lesions rather than to the increased amount of bone injury.

A case of *Fracture of the Superior Maxilla*, in which an interdental splint of hard rubber was successfully used, was reported by Dr. J. F. PRITCHARD, and the details of application explained. The case was one of compound fracture caused by the crush of a horse's foot; healing was completed in about four weeks.

*Uterine Hemorrhage* in its various forms, but more particularly the forms incident upon pregnancy, are discussed by Dr. G. F. HUNT, and the appropriate methods of treatment are considered under each head. In the treatment of accidental hemorrhage in the eighth or ninth month, where the flow of blood is constant, the uterine pains weak and ineffectual, and the patient's strength much exhausted, the author strongly recommends perforating the head and introducing the hook, and generally succeeds in saving the patient. This in some parts of the world would be considered as rather heroic, and to be adopted only in extreme emergency, when the loss of the child is beyond question. We would invite Dr. Hunt's attention to the admirable consideration of the subject in Dr. King's paper on *Placenta Prævia* contained in the Indiana State Medical Society's Transactions for 1879. Four other obstetrical papers were presented and are included in this volume. One on *Version or Forceps in Pelves Narrowed in the Conjugate Diameter*, by Dr. GEO. SEILER (giving a very fair consideration of the present status of this important question), and the other on *Presentation of the Fœtus*, with notes of ten cases by Dr. J. G. MEACHEM, Jr.

An interesting article on *Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis* (or Infantile Paralysis) with a report of three cases in children is contributed by Dr. JAS. DORLAND, in which the clinical features of the cases (which all occurred in one family) are clearly detailed, with some remarks upon treatment, in which electricity and cod-liver oil prominently appear.

A case of *Medullary Cancer of the Left Kidney*, with involvement of surrounding viscera, was reported by Dr. GEO. M. STEELE, with some remarks upon the pathology and course of this malignant form of growth. It is remarkable that in these cases uræmic symptoms are never observed.

The present volume is handsomely printed on extra paper, and the clear typography greatly enhances the pleasure of reading this exceedingly practical and more than usually valuable series of papers. F. W.

ART. XXIX.—*Do Rheumatisme Chronique Nouveau des Enfants et de son Traitement.* Par le Dr. MONCORVO, Membre de l'Académie Impériale de Médecine de Rio de Janeiro. Traduit de Portugais et annoté par le Dr. MAURIAC de Bordeaux. 8vo. pp. 148. Paris: Octave Doin, 1880.

*On Chronic Nodular Rheumatism in Children and its Treatment.* By Dr. MONCORVO.

CHRONIC nodular rheumatism occurring in children forms the subject of a monograph which was submitted to the Société de Médecine et de

Chirurgie de Bordeaux by Dr. Moncorvo, on the occasion of his candidature for the title of Corresponding Member of that Society, and is a paper which, apart from the fact that it is the only monograph which has appeared on this subject, by its general thoroughness has warranted its publication in a more accessible form than the original Portuguese.

The author's attention was directed to the subject in 1874, when he had under his care a little girl, aged two and a half years, of a marked lymphatic temperament, and who had been nourished by a large number of wet-nurses, in most of whom some scrofulous or rheumatic taint was detected. The child when only a few months old was greatly debilitated by a severe and prolonged attack of whooping-cough, which left her pale and feeble, with glandular enlargement and a tendency to attacks of impetigenous eruptions. The rheumatic symptoms appeared, without exposure to wet or cold, as a subacute rheumatic fever, implicating the knees; after the febrile symptoms subsided the radio-carpal and tibio-tarsal articulations became implicated but without any renewal of the general febrile reaction; the symptoms then remained stationary for about a month, when febrile symptoms again appeared, accompanied by exacerbation of the articular disorder and an inflammatory œdema of both legs. This second crisis disappeared and the case developed into one of marked chronic nodular rheumatism, the condition of the patient being thus described by the author: "Incomplete extension of the lower limbs, due to the retraction of the muscles and ligaments of the knees (pseudo-ankylosis), and interfering with the erect posture; external lateral deviation of the legs, particularly of the left (angular ankylosis). Contracture of the flexor muscles of the legs on the thighs and of the thighs on the trunk. Retraction of the posterior ligament of the knees, preventing, as we have already said, extension of the legs. Crepitation, due to the rupture of 'osseous stalactites,' was readily produced on energetic motion of the diseased joints." The phalangeal articulations of the thumbs and index fingers, the wrist and great toes, are the seat of extremely painful nodes. No cardiac lesion was ever discovered.

This case furnished Dr. Moncorvo with the text for a thorough and systematic study of the occurrence of rheumatism in children, the multiple etiological conditions which tend to develop this affection, among which he recognizes heredity and the bad hygienic states dependent on want as important factors, its medical geography, symptomatology, pathological anatomy, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment. The treatment of this disease has been above all studied with the greatest care. He has passed in review the numerous medications which have been proposed, with most of which, with the exception of cold baths and salicylic acid, the latter not being introduced by Dr. Sée until 1877, he had himself had experience in the treatment of his case, before it occurred to him to employ electricity. This latter remedy he recommends most highly as a certain and radical cure, and certainly his statements seem to be warranted by his remarkable success. He used both the constant and induced currents; the former from twenty-four chloride of silver elements (Gaiffe) was passed for ten minutes every other day through the diseased articulations; on the alternate days the induced current from a small Gaiffe bisulphate of mercury battery was passed through the atrophied muscles. At the close of each séance massage and the gradual breaking up of the adhesions in the joints was practised. "After more than forty séances of electrization and massage, the patient was able to maintain herself in the erect posture

without any support and to walk in an almost vertical position. The external angular deviation of the left knee was scarcely perceptible. The nodes and pains had entirely disappeared. In these conditions we discontinued the employment of electricity and abandoned to natural movements the completion of the cure, which we are justified in terming radical, since two years and a half have already elapsed since this epoch, and there to-day exist no traces of this terrible malady."

Nearly all authors agree as to the extreme rarity of any form of rheumatism in early childhood, while a case of chronic nodular rheumatism is then almost unique, only three cases, including Dr. Moncorvo's, having been published up to the date of his communication; since then one has been reported by Dr. Daily in the *Gazette Hebdomadaire*, occurring in a little boy, and cured by douches, manipulation, and the constant current. Dr. Moncorvo's paper is then particularly valuable as furnishing a thorough study and apparently successful treatment of a disease which few physicians have an opportunity for seeing.

The translator has added notes on the employment of terebinthinate baths and statical electricity in the treatment of this affection, and a tabular statement of the frequency of occurrence of rheumatism in Bordeaux.

R. M. S.

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ART. XXX.—*Il Servizio Di Chirurgia Ostetrica al domicilio del povero. Esportazione Utero Ovarica per grave angustia di pelvi rachitica, praticata il 3 luglio 1880, dai sanitari dell'Ufficio d'Igiene, col concorso di quelli di beneficenza: soprapparto da nove giorni: guarigione della madre, relazione del* DOTTORI RAMELLO CANDIDO e BRAMBILLA LUIGI.

*Service of Obstetrical Surgery at the homes of the poor. Utero-ovarian ablation for grave rachitic deformity of the pelvis, performed on July 3, 1880, under physicians of the Board of Hygiene, and of the Society of Beneficence: woman nine days in labour, cured.* Reported by Drs. CANDIDO RAMELLO and LUIGI BRAMBILLA. 8vo. pp. 30. Turin, 1880.

IN the early days of Turin, large numbers of difficult obstetric cases were delivered in her hospitals, where the mortality was very great; but in the rebuilt and modernized city, with its improved hygienic conditions, the great majority of such cases are treated at their own homes, by physicians connected with certain benevolent medical societies, somewhat like those in operation in our cities. The Porro operations of Turin have been chiefly in hospital; but two of the three recoveries were in private houses. There have been thus far, 7 operations; 5 in hospital and 2 in their own homes; these two were saved, and one of the hospital cases. Perhaps, no Italian case, or any in Europe, made as remarkable a recovery considering its difficulties, as the one we are about to describe, which was operated upon by Dr. Candido Ramello, one of the younger physicians of Turin, attached to the Sanitary Municipal service. In nine months of the year 1880, this service assisted in 1013 labours among the poor, of whom 5 died, three being forceps cases (superior strait), and two cases of turning. The results of this service have been quite in contrast with those in the old maternities, where puerperal peritonitis and septicæmia have been very prevalent.